

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Amended) A method to protect a file system from a viral infection, comprising:

flagging a program on a computer as being suspect for possibly containing a virus in response to at least one of:

opening a local file on a local file system of the computer to perform a read operation and opening a shared file on a shared or network file system to perform a write or append operation with the local file;

the program reading or opening itself and the program attempting to write or append any content to the shared file on the shared or network file system or to write or append any content to the local file on the local file system;

the program attempting to write or append the local file to the shared or network file system and preserve a filename of the local file in the shared or network file system; and

the program attempting to write or append a remote file to the local file system;

storing a filename and a location where the local or shared file is copied or written in response to the local or shared file being copied or written by the program.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising inhibiting a write or append operation associated with the program in response to flagging the program.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising monitoring all file operations associated with the program in response to the program not being in a safe list.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising permitting selected read and write operations in response to a predefined rules table.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising sending an alert in response to flagging the program.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising sending an alert to a network monitoring system in response to flagging the program.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising logging any file system operations including recording a filename and a location where the local or shared file is written.

9. (Previously Amended) A method to protect a file system from a viral infection, comprising:

allowing a security level to be set;

monitoring predetermined file system operations associated with a program; and

logging any predetermined file system operations associated with the program

including recording a filename and a location where a file is written in response to the file being written.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising selecting the program for monitoring in response to the program not being on a safe list.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising logging any file system operations associated with any programs on the safe list.

12. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising receiving a notification that the program intends to perform one of the predetermined file system operations.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising following a predefined procedure in response to the level of security set.

14. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising flagging the program in response to the program attempting to perform one of the predetermined file system operations.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising flagging the program in response to at least one of:

the program opening a local file on a local file system to perform a read operation and opening a shared file on a shared or network file system to perform a write or append operation with the local file;

the program reading or opening itself and the program attempting to write or append any content to the shared file on the shared or network file system or to write or append any content to the local file on the local file system;

the program attempting to write or append the local file to the shared or network file system and preserve a filename of the local file in the shared or network file system; and

the program attempting to write or append a remote file to the local file system.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising inhibiting any predetermined file system operations associated with the program in response to the program being flagged.

17. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising sending an alert in response to the program attempting to perform any predetermined file system operations.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising sending the alert to a network monitoring system.

19. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising presenting an alert to a user for approval before the predetermined file system operation is performed by the program.

20. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising requiring approval before performing any predetermined file system operations associated with the program in response to the program not being on a safe list.

21.-44. Cancelled.